

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 508

By Boyd

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Heather Marie Williams Bay upon being named Airport Manager of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as professionals and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Heather Marie Williams Bay, Chief Executive Officer of Lebanon Municipal Airport – M54, who has been named the 2022 Airport Manager of the Year by the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission (TAC) and Tennessee Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division (TDOTA); and

WHEREAS, the Airport Manager of the Year Award reflects the respect and appreciation that the TAC and TDOTA maintain for the many airports and airport managers within the State that have committed themselves to excellence in aviation and aviation safety; and

WHEREAS, the owner of Direct Flight Solutions, LLC, a private-public partnership with the City of Lebanon, Mrs. Bay has devoted over thirty years of service to the Lebanon Municipal Airport – M54 and aviation in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Heather Marie Williams Bay has more than twenty-five years of experience in general and business aviation and fifteen years of experience as chief executive officer of two different fixed-base operations at the Lebanon Municipal Airport; by analyzing operation problems at the airport and developing a logical and practical solution to such issues, she has maintained the private corporate stability of a small business; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bay's years of experience have allowed her to understand the complexity of the industry and the unique hurdles it brings; with a passion for anything aviation,

she works daily with aspiring leaders, executive leaders, entrepreneurs, city officials and staff, airport tenants, aviators, passengers, guests, flight departments, community leaders, business partners, and the public; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure of airfield leadership, airfield operations have increased by 5,800 to almost 60,000, from forty-four hangars to sixty-nine completed with over thirty additional hangars in development; she has also taken on the personal mission of educating and rallying for general aviation laws and funding for general aviation before the General Assembly and has presented and testified before a number of committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to serving the needs of her community, Mrs. Bay is a member of the Easterseals of Tennessee Board of Directors, Tennessee Aviation Association Board of Directors, Hartsville/Trousdale County Industrial Development Board, Hartsville Trousdale County Planning Board, Music City Chapter Women in Aviation Board of Directors, Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Wilson County Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Board, and Wilson County Fair Board; and

WHEREAS, she is also the Chairman of the Hartsville/Trousdale County Water Sewer Board, past chair and current member of the Prospect Board of Directors, and a former member of the Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame Board of Directors; moreover, she participates with the Sattler Foundation in a summer aviation and aerospace camp for youth and assists with Women in Aviation Music City Chapter and Girls in Aviation Day; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional, Heather Marie Williams Bay estimably serves as a Terrorism Liaison Officer at the Tennessee Department of Homeland Security and has worked over 100 Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board, and Homeland Security cases on and off Lebanon Municipal Airport – M54; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bay is a 2014 graduate of Leadership Wilson and a member of Women in Aviation International, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), and Lebanon Noon Rotary, as well as a Titan Aviation Member ACE; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Heather Marie Williams Bay received the EAA Local Chapter 863 President's Award in 2011, was named Business Person of the Year by the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce in 2020, and has been honored as the Woman of Wilson County by *The Wilson Post*; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Mrs. Bay is most appreciative of the love and support of her husband, Kerry Bay; and

WHEREAS, Heather Marie Williams Bay epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Mrs. Bay for her dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Heather Marie Williams Bay upon being named the 2022 Airport Manager of the Year by the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission and Tennessee Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division, commend her for her ongoing commitment to Lebanon Municipal Airport – M54, and extend to her our best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.

